

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/689,977

Examiner

Thanh H Nguyen

Applicant(s)

SETO ET AL

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2861

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>102203</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                             | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____.   |

## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT/COMMENT**

### **Reasons for Allowance**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the indication of the allowability of claims 1-14, 19 is the inclusion therein of the limitations of a nozzle row in a direction parallel (intersecting) to the conveyance direction of the recording medium, wherein the inkjet recording head includes a plurality of nozzle groups structured by dividing up the nozzle row, and the nozzles of the nozzle row include opposing nozzles which are disposed at a boundary between neighboring nozzle groups which neighbor in the row direction of the nozzle row, the actuators include opposing actuators, which respectively correspond to the opposing nozzles, and actuators within the nozzle groups, which respectively correspond to nozzles neighboring the opposing nozzles in the row direction, and a separation between the opposing actuators disposed at the boundary is equal to or greater than separations between the opposing actuators and the actuators neighboring the opposing actuators in the row direction within the nozzle groups. These limitations are neither suggested nor taught by the prior art of record, alone or in combination as claimed.

The primary reason for the indication of the allowability of claims 15-18, 20 is the inclusion therein of the limitations of a nozzle row in a direction parallel (intersecting) the conveyance direction of the recording medium, wherein the inkjet recording head includes a plurality of nozzle groups structured by dividing up the nozzle row, and the

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nozzles of the nozzle row include opposing nozzles which are disposed at a boundary between neighboring nozzle groups which neighbor in the row direction of the nozzle row, the actuators include opposing actuators, which respectively correspond to the opposing nozzles, and actuators within the nozzle groups, which respectively correspond to nozzles neighboring the opposing nozzles in the row direction, and a separation between the opposing actuators disposed at the boundary is equal to or greater than separations between the opposing actuators and the actuators neighboring the opposing actuators in the row direction within the nozzle groups. These limitations are neither suggested nor taught by the prior art of record, alone or in combination as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


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### **Contact Information**

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to examiner Thinh Nguyen at telephone number (571) 272-2257. The examiner can generally be reached Mon-Friday from 9:00A – 5:00P. The official fax phone number for the organization is (703) 872-9306.

The examiner supervisor, Stephen Meier, can also be reached at (571) 272-2149.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

  
Thinh Nguyen  
March 3, 2004

**Thinh Nguyen**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**Technology Center 2800**